

Medical Association, constituent state associations would save many times the amount of money so expended, by being given the opportunity to avail themselves of the Century of Progress experience. Why make constituent state associations who wish to carry on educational programs at state and county fairs create their exhibits in amateur fashion at greater cost, and more mistakes and less efficiency when, at small expense, the start can be made with the excellent material of the great Progress Fair itself?

When the California Medical Association, three or four years ago, planned its initial exhibit, request was made of the American Medical Association for suggestions and copies of any material it could loan for study and consideration. We received at that time one-half dozen or so placards that were at most of such degree as to make the reply to our request little less than pathetic. The American Medical Association now has at its doors, in its central headquarters, an opportunity to rectify all this, and at almost trivial expense. If it fails in this opportunity, we know of at least one constituent state association that will be somewhat disappointed in the national body's lack of vision.*

ANTI-VIVISECTION PROPAGANDA

Quirks of Anti-Vivisection Reasoning.—If a new anti-vivisection law is not submitted within thirty days after the California Legislature convenes on January 2, 1935, such tardiness on the part of the persistently-recurring proponents of this supposedly humanitarian measure will cause surprise. In reviewing anti-vivisection efforts, it soon becomes evident that a considerable number of those fellow citizens who advocate laws against animal experimentation (in which proposed measures, the drastic and comprehensive nature of certain provisions are often beautifully concealed in high sounding and seemingly innocent phraseology), have notions that are altogether in error. Since many of these proponents bear excellent reputations for honesty, and a capacity for sane balance in their business and social relationships, it must be assumed that such citizens are found in the camps of the anti-vivisectionists, only because they have been misled into believing things to exist which do not, and using such false impressions as premises from which they draw even more erroneous conclusions.

In a world in which countless thousands of animals go to slaughter every day, in order that food and other supplies for the human race may be made accessible, and in which also birds and animals without end are daily hunted in the name of sport (ofttimes, however, only to be wounded and go to death in agony and starvation), it is difficult to understand the mental processes which lead otherwise clear thinking and intelligent citizens to support anti-vivisection societies, and the measures frequently espoused by such organizations.

* EDITOR'S NOTE.—Since writing the above, we have been informed that steps will be taken by the American Medical Association's Department of Health and Public Instruction to secure photographs and other data, as outlined in these comments.

In California, in addition to its great natural resources, there is a climate and a body of citizens, that mark it as one of the foremost of American commonwealths, but which also, through possession of these attributes, seems to have a special magnetic power in drawing to it faddists and cultists of all kinds and degrees, it is not surprising that some of the extremists in the anti-vivisectionist groups should have been more than active.

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An Experience in Chicago.—For the consolation of Californians we reprint here an excerpt from an item in the *Chicago Herald and Examiner* of September 20, which came to our attention on the same afternoon when we had spent some time in one of the booths of the Northwestern University, at the Century of Progress, studying with admiration the splendid and convincing arrangement of an exhibit entitled, "Contributions of Animals to Human Health."* The various animals which had been used in scientific animal experimentations were listed, and under each was outlined in brief form the nature of the discoveries which had been made through such investigations, and how the utilization of the discoveries had created powerful factors in the conservation of the health and lives of human beings.

We made a memorandum of the exhibit in the hope of securing a copy of the data contained therein, for possible use in California. On reaching our hotel, we picked up the *Chicago Herald and Examiner*, to find an item confronting our eyes which we believe our readers will agree is written in the "best California anti-vivisection style." Space can be given to only two brief paragraphs.

"There was a blind man yesterday finding his way from one medical school to another, hoping to save his dog—a mongrel named Jack—from the knife of the vivisectionist. . . .

"I am worried, terribly worried, about what may happen to Jack. Stories have been read to me from the *Herald and Examiner* about how dogs have been supplied from the city's pound to the operating tables of doctors and students who torture them in the name of science."

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What the Above Teaches.—And as regards the lesson which may be drawn from this single afternoon's experience, namely of highest type scientific exhibit and newspaper sentimentalism?

None other than that in our present day civilization, nothing need really surprise us. And further, that in loyalty to the truth and to our race, we must be tireless in our endeavors to carry on educational work among patients and friends concerning the true facts about scientific animal experimentation, and what has been accomplished thereby, so that the efforts of mawkish or extremist anti-vivisectionists will come to naught.

Readers do themselves an injustice if they fail to read Doctor Ivy's article on pages 247-250 of this issue.

* EDITOR'S NOTE.—Through the courtesy of Professor A. C. Ivy, we are able to print in this issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE the legends to which reference is here made. See page 247.